

**JOINT MEETING OF THE
NEW SHOREHAM SEWER AND WATER COMMISSION**

Monday May 9th, 2016 at 4:00pm

Town Hall, Old Town Rd, Block Island

PRESENT were SEWER Commission members: Brad Marthens, Kathy Szabo and Martha Ball.

PRESENT were WATER Commission members: Brad Marthens (Chair), Martha Ball and Kathy Szabo.

ABSENT were Commission members: Steve Draper (Vice-Chair), Terri Chmiel, Tom Doyle, and Peter McNerney (Chair).

ALSO PRESENT were: Sewer Superintendent Chris Blane, Water Superintendent John Breunig, Finance Director Amy Land, Deputy Finance Director Mona Helterline and Administrative Assistant Kara Stinnett.

**With a quorum present the meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.
by B. Marthens.**

JOINT WATER and SEWER DISTRICT

1. Welcome new/returning Commissioners

The New Shoreham Town Council met on May 3rd, 2016 and voted to reappoint the following members to the New Shoreham Sewer and Water Commissions:

Peter McNerney- Full time Member, Exp. 2021

Terri Chmiel- Alternate Member, Exp. 2017

Kathy Szabo- Alternate Member, Exp. 2017

2. FY 2017 Budget

Finance Director Land started out by stating that both the Water and Sewer Budgets this year were very straight forward.

• WATER DISTRICT

Finance Director Land stated that Water user fees were going to stay the same, and the water customer charge for all High Impact 1 & 2 and all Low Impact 1 & 2 charges are going to increase about 10%. On the expenditures side most line items are the same, the largest change is in the wage line. As for debt service and depreciation they are almost the same as well. There was an increase in the fire maintenance line and fire hydrants are going from a cost of \$460 to \$500 per fire hydrant and there will be a sprinkler system increase of 10% to jumpstart better upkeep on the hydrants that we have. There is an increase for capital projects that Breunig would like to get done this year; these include improvements on Well 5 which is in need of a pump replacement and when this happens it will also include looking at the well with a camera. The variable Frequency Drive ("VF") needs to be replaced as it is at the end of its life expectancy and the water tanks, every five years, the manufacturer recommends getting the

seams resealed, so this will be done as well.

- **SEWER DISTRICT**

Finance Director Land was proud to say that the sewer user fees and customer charges would be staying the same this year. Sewer already has a customer charge that meets its debt service levels. And in putting the budget together the user fees cover the operating cost, not so much so to bring rates down at this point but we are at a place that we have been trying to get to, which is a wonderful place to be. The contribution to reserve is now at zero which is great. Sewer you will notice a little bit more tweaking in line items and this is because these numbers are based upon historic averages. Land did increase the consultant other line as Jim Geremia has been used a little bit more for non USDA programs, which Land tends to think will continue as the USDA funding is not available to cover projects. There is also a slight increase in the conference/training and travel as there will be a new employee coming in, in the near future. Blane also has a 5 year plan that included projects that were on the “wish list” to get done towards the end of each fiscal year when there is money left over in the budget after all the major fixes have been taken care of. Wage increases were discussed for both sewer and water. Breunig had suggested mirroring what the Union had originally went with which was taking the 2.5% pay increase for everyone and dividing it equally among the employees. Blane suggested the usual 2.5% increase for all employees, which is what the Union actually voted and approved. Marthens felt that the Commission should mirror the

Union like it has done regularly in the past. Ball had asked if she could see some better numbers for the two proposals. Land said she would get a sheet drawn up with all the employees and the two different proposals for next week's budget workshop.

Adjournment.

MOTION was made by P. McNerney to adjourn the meeting at 04:03 p.m. Motion seconded by T. Chmiel.

Aye: 3 (Marthens, Ball and Szabo) Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Kara Stinnett

ACCEPTED: 6/20/16

The New Shoreham Sewer and Water Districts are an equal opportunity provider and employer

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send you completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.